MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Wednesday, Feb. 12th - Faculty Meeting: Acting Candidate, 4:00pm in GH144
Production Committee Meeting, 5:00pm in GH144

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Announcing a Tribute to James Avery, famed actor, poet, UC San Diego alumnus and iconic father figure in the hit television show The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air: On Saturday, March 1st, we will honor James’s life, career, and legacy through an afternoon of theatre, live music, personal reflections and poetry readings. Key artistic and historic participants will include Cecil Lytle, Arthur Wagner, Monique Gaffney, Jorge Huerta, John Wesley, and a cast member of The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air. From 2:00pm-4:00pm in the Mandell Weiss Forum Theatre, with a reception following. The event is free, but tickets are required. Read more here!

Samuel Goldwyn Writing Awards Competition – The Awards were started by Samuel Goldwyn, Sr., in 1955 at UCLA to encourage young stage, film, and television writers. Former winners have written more than 300 films, television series and made-for-TV movies. These productions have won a total of 27 Academy Awards® with 101 nominations, 35 Golden Globe Awards® with 189 nominations, and 87 Emmys® with 488 nominations. Many previous winners are also popular authors who, collectively, have published over 60 books, including many New York Times bestsellers. (You may remember that BA ’07 alum Michael Carnick won this Award a few years ago – he was the first undergrad to ever earn the Award. See more about Michael in “Alum News,” below.) The Competition is accepting submissions now. More here!

News from the Librarian! – Rob Melton, the Theater & Dance Librarian at the Geisel, sent over a compiled list of the Library’s new books in theatre and dance to the Department. It includes professional and some popular books in acting, directing, stage managing, and design that would be of interest to undergraduates and MFA faculty and grad students, as well as more scholarly works. The list is available at the Front Desk.

Professor Marianne McDonald will receive a Women's Empowerment Award from the Women's International Center on February 22nd and Professor Nadine George-Graves will be presented with a Living Legacy Award at the ceremony, which will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hanalei in San Diego. “For nearly 30 years the Women's International Center has honored ground-breaking individuals from around the world who are making a big difference. We bring together hundreds of people to celebrate the accomplishments and lasting contributions of women, men, and organizations.” Congratulations to both! More here!
NEWS FOR FACULTY & STAFF

Catastrophic Leave Program - Want to make a difference? You can transfer some of your accrued vacation hours to the Leave Program for use by employees who suffer a catastrophic illness or are caring for a family member who is seriously ill, who need extra paid time off on a bereavement leave, or for other similar situations. (First, review the program rules to determine if you are eligible to donate.) To transfer some of your hours, complete a donor form, submit it to the Department for signature, and sent it to Employee Relations at mail code 0922. (Keep a copy for your records.) You can contact Amanda Chavez (amandachavez@ucsd.edu) if you have any questions.

Use UC for your medical care? - UC San Diego Health System has sold some of its outpatient pharmacy business to Vons – part of the Safeway family of companies. Vons will continue to offer pharmacy services at the Perlman Medical Offices in La Jolla and the 4th and Lewis Medical Offices in Hillcrest. The pharmacy within the Internal Medicine Group on Villa La Jolla Drive is closed. To learn more, visit the Pharmacy Update page.

ONSTAGE


The lives of two families are sent into a spiraling search for meaning as they deal with the aftermath of severe spousal abuse.

Opening February 19th - She Stoops to Conquer, by Oliver Goldsmith, directed by Penny Metropulos (Quinn Martin Production), in the Mandell Weiss Theatre.

Because her suitor Charles Marlow is a nervous wreck around upper-class women, Miss Kate Hardcastle pretends to be an innkeeper in an effort to get him to woo her.

Advance tickets for these productions are available Monday-Friday, noon to 6:00 pm by calling the Box Office at (858)534-4574 or in person at the Theatre District’s Central Box Office at the Sheila & Hughes Potiker Theatre. At-the-Door tickets, if available, can be purchased one hour before show time at the performing theatre’s box office at Mandell Weiss Forum Theatre.
ADMINISTRIVIA

Wednesday, Feb. 12th – Enrollment Begins
Monday, Feb. 17th – campus closed, Presidents Day Holiday
Friday, March 7th – Deadline to drop without a grade of “F”
Monday, March 31st – Deadline for employees to “retro-switch” health plans

ALUM NEWS

Alums – On Facebook? Come visit the Department’s Facebook Alumni page! This group is set up for UC San Diego Department of Theatre and Dance Alumni to correspond with each other regarding their current or upcoming productions, projects or events. Please use it as a place to update each other on your past, current or future projects. If you have a show coming up let the group know. If you are performing, directing, designing, writing, stage managing or in any way involved in a creative project please let us know. Note that the Department will use some of the postings from this site for alumni updates in the newsletter. The Department will also use this group to alert you on Department information or Alumni events.

From the Wall:  Sarah Cogan [MFA ‘11] – “Heya UCSD Family! Just opened a show at the Beckett Theater, Theatre Row called Philosophy for Gangsters. I did the costumes on this one, and they are very fun. Attached is the Family/Friends discount flyer. Love to know if you go see it.” Sarah Lenigan [MFA ‘01] “New York-based alums- the local UCSD alumni group is looking for an arts event to attend in March in NYC. They typically put together a group and enjoy a good talk-back, often at a nearby pub, usually with light catering. If you have anything going up in March please message me so we can give your audience a bump!”

Emerging Leader: Paloma Young (MFA ’06) will be recognized by UC during Alumni Weekend, June 5th & 6th. “Paloma is a costume designer who was recognized for her work in Peter and the Starcatcher at the 66th annual Tony Awards (2012) for Best Costume Design of a Play. She studied costume design at UC San Diego’s renowned graduate theatre and dance program under her mentor, Judith Dolan, professor and head of design. Young’s costume design has been featured in Broadway and off-Broadway productions, as well as regionally at the Old Globe theater, La Jolla Playhouse, and many other regional theaters.” More here!

While attending UCR for his MFA (’12) in Creative Writing for the Performing Arts, T&D alum Michael Carnick (BA’07) was selected as a Finalist for the Kennedy Center ACTF Region VIII New Play Festival two years in a row. In 2012, his play Marlon and Momma was performed at UCR’s New Play Festival. Michael’s short film, Rolling Romance, which was independently produced and shot on location in LA, has made several film festival appearances and has garnered awards, including “Best Screenplay” at The Malibu Film Festival and “Best in Show” at The Indie Fest. It was recently screened at the San Diego Jewish Film Festival and will also play at the upcoming St. Tropez film festival. Michael’s latest project (executive producer) is an absurd workplace comedy TV pilot written and produced by David Katz titled Unemployment that is currently in production.

MFA ’12 alum Nick Drashner will be designing the sound for the La Jolla Playhouse’s 2014 Performance Outreach Program (POP) Tour of San Diego County Schools. The production this year is Suzette Who Set to Sea, by critically-acclaimed Tasmanian playwright Finegan Kruckemeyer. More here!
Vincent Mountain (MFA ‘92) is a Professor of Theatre (Scenic Design) at the University of Michigan. He has worked with the Alley Theatre, Geffen Playhouse, Houston Music Hall, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Wolf Trap Opera Company, Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, and Central City Opera. He also works with the Purple Rose Theatre Company, where he has just designed the sets for a new production of Lanford Wilson’s Redwood Curtain.